

WASHINGTON

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Calumet Plant, R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company

and/or common SAME

2. Location

street & number 350 East Twenty-Second Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Chicago N/A vicinity of

state Illinois code 012 county Cook code 031

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company

street & number 2223 South Martin Luther King Drive

city, town Chicago N/A vicinity of state Illinois

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Cook County Recorder of Deeds

street & number 118 North Clark

city, town Chicago state Illinois

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Illinois Historic Structure's Survey, "Inventory of Historic Structures in
title Near South, Chicago, Cook County" has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Historic
Sites

city, town Springfield state Illinois

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved

date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

a. Summary Paragraph

The Calumet Plant of R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company is an eight story brick structure with a fourteen story southeast corner tower. The plant was constructed in four sections between 1912 and 1929. The reinforced concrete structure is clad in red brick with Indiana limestone trim. The design of the imposing building, with its expansive windows recessed behind dominant brick piers, expresses its industrial use. It is ornamented with gothic details and emblems of the printing industry. The building occupies a prominent place on Chicago's South side adjacent to the Illinois Central Railroad tracks, and is a well known visual landmark from Lake Shore Drive. It possesses exceptional integrity. Alterations consist of a small ninth floor addition to the east section of the building built in 1951; the addition of the R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company sign; ductwork on the roof; minor alteration of some second floor windows on the east facade; replacement of doors; addition of loading docks; and interior remodeling of some of the less significant office space. Basically, the building retains its 1929 appearance.

b. Explanation

1. Evolution

The Calumet Plant was constructed in four sections, labeled Buildings A, B, C and D (see attached continuation sheet 3). Building B, on the north, was constructed in 1912 as a two story structure and raised to its eight story height, with a small central tower, in 1918 and 1924. The north facade is now largely obscured by loading docks. Building C, the dominant east section, was constructed as a five story building in 1918, and raised to eight stories in 1924. Howard Van Doren Shaw designed Buildings B and C and had prepared incomplete plans for the remaining east and west sections of the building by the time of his death in 1926. Building A on the west and building D to the south, including the corner tower and the main entrance, were constructed in 1929 under the supervision of architect Charles Z. Klauder.

2. Structural and Exterior Description

The Calumet Plant occupies the entire block between 21st and 22nd Streets, Calumet Avenue and the Illinois Central Right of Way. The 1,100,000 square foot building is of reinforced concrete construction bearing a load of 250 pounds per square foot. Structural Engineers were Lord and Hollinger with E.C. and R.M. Shankland, Consulting Engineers.¹

In form the building is a well proportioned industrial design of the early twentieth century. Its ornamental treatment is primarily gothic, including piers tapered to suggest buttresses between the bays and at the corners of the tower, vertically oriented window treatments terminating in limestone trimmed arches, limestone cladding on the first floor which includes trim with heraldic devices, niches, arched entries and ornamental trim, and choice of lettering for signage. Stone medallions grouped in pairs above each first floor window represent the marks of printers. Colorful terra cotta plaques on the spandrels of upper stories are also derived from early printers devices. The main entry, on the south (22nd Street, Building D facade) has an arched

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two story doorway. The stone walls of this entry have six seals, three of which include the initials of Howard Van Doren Shaw, T. E. Donnelley, and R. H. Donnelley, and carved relief panels of a Prairie Indian and a frontiersman by Emil Zettler.²

3. Interior Description

(a) Industrial spaces

Light and ventilation are provided to the building by the large exterior windows and a central court. The bulk of the building is devoted to expansive spaces punctuated by concrete columns, utilized for printing presses, binderies, composition, and other functions. Shipping and storage facilities are located primarily in the basement and on the first floor. Some areas have been partitioned to accommodate different uses.

(b) Public spaces and offices of Architectural Significance

The building includes office spaces and employee facilities on the first, second and eighth floors which have been altered over the years and were never of primary architectural significance. The first floor public lobby in the south section is clad in marble, with a vaulted ceiling and arched entries with carved corbels. The most significant interior space is located on the eighth floor of the south section (Building D). The elevators open into the Exhibition Hall or Gallery, a two-story space with three-part windows suggesting a clerestory, a slightly pitched wood beamed ceiling, marble floors, and stone trim with smooth rustication around all openings.

To the east, a corridor with stone arches and vaulted plaster ceilings leads to the executive offices, which have heavy oak doors, panelled walls, and leaded glass ornament in some of the windows. At the southeast end of the corridor, in the tower section, is the Donnelley Memorial Library. This two-story cruciform gothic room has Ohio sandstone walls which rise to the groin-vaulted ceiling. The doors and bookshelves are of delicately hand carved English oak, and the floor is of imported teakwood with a marble border. On the second floor is a narrow balcony with a wrought iron rail accessible by spiral stairways. Wrought iron is also used for the door trim, lighting fixtures and radiator grilles. Leaded glass printers' marks are set in the window panes. Above the fireplace the names of master printers such as Gutenberg, Caxton, Baskerville and DeVinne are carved. Portraits of the Donnelley family hang in the library which holds a collection of the Lakeside Press' finest work.

Offices, which are generally plain, occupy the tower space above the library and are accessible by a small elevator. Partitioned office space to the west of the gallery on the eighth floor has vaulted ceilings, and shields affixed to ornament the industrial columns, but are otherwise unadorned.

¹ Carl Condit, Chicago, 1910-29; Building Planning, and Urban Technology (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1973) pp. 135-139; Photograph dated 1913 in R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company Archives shows Shankland as engineers

² The Lakeside Press, April 1930, pp. 10-11.

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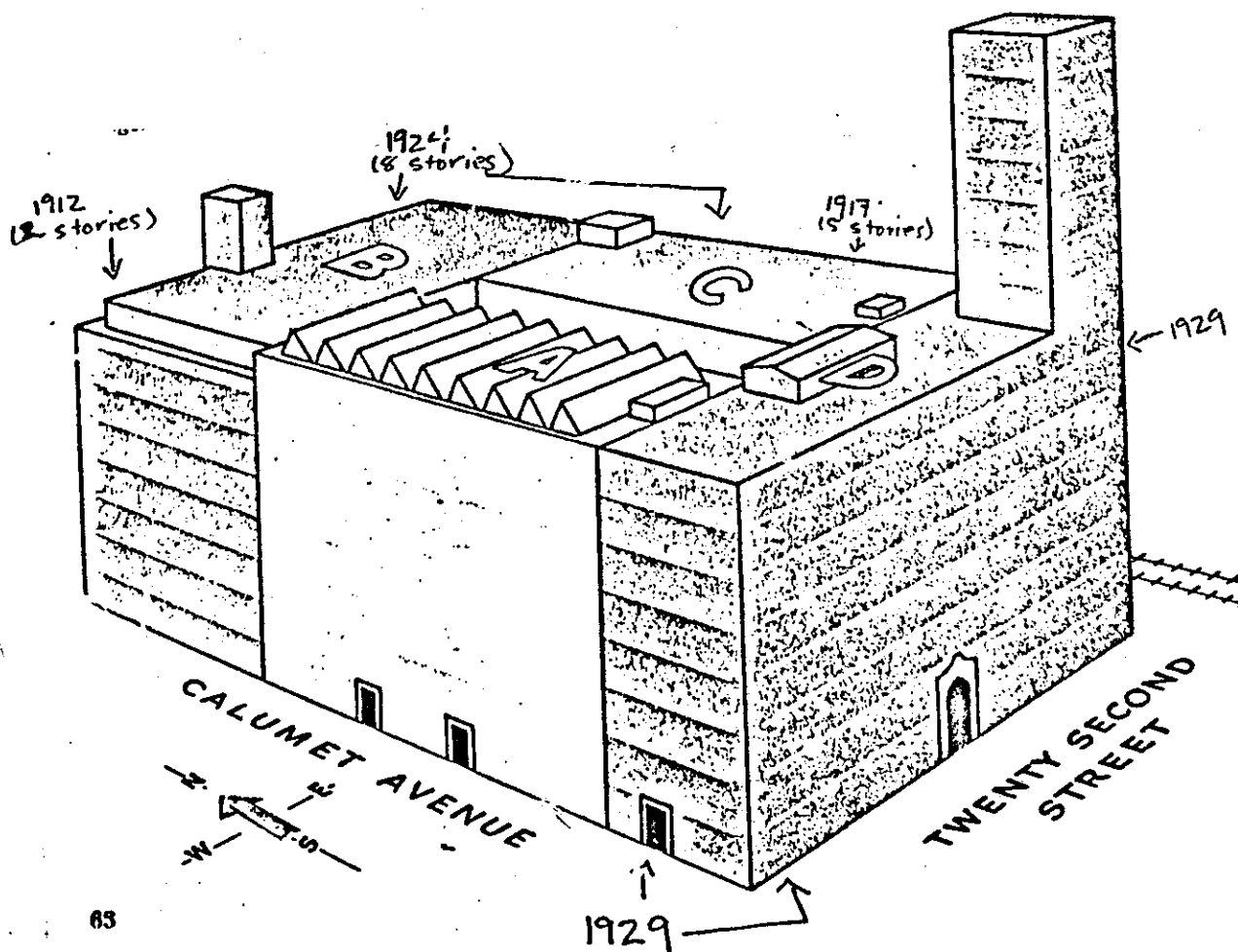
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8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1930	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1912-1929

Builder/Architect Howard Van Doren Shaw (1912-1926);
Charles Z. Klauder (1929)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

a. Summary Paragraph

The Calumet Plant of R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company is a distinctive example of industrial and corporate design practices which characterized the period between 1910 and 1930, and is one of few industrial or commercial structures designed by the important Chicago architect, Howard Van Doren Shaw. The design was completed after Shaw's death by Charles Z. Klauder of Philadelphia, an architect nationally renowned for his Gothic buildings whose work is not well represented in Chicago. For these reasons, it meets Criteria "C" for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Built of reinforced concrete with particular attention paid to massing and ornamental detail, the building is significant primarily in the area of architecture. It demonstrates the Donnelley family's commitment to creating an architectural monument that serves as an appropriate image of their company, which has been a leader of the Chicago printing industry since the mid-nineteenth century. This association qualifies the building for National Register listing in the area of commerce.

b. Explanation

1. Building Type

R. R. Donnelley's Calumet Plant followed a standard formula for industrial building designs of the early twentieth century in materials, massing and openings. It is exceptional, however, because of its unusually fine gothic detailing on both exterior and interior, and excellence of proportions. Industrial designers of the era were urged to create functional buildings which would combine efficiently planned work spaces; adequate light, heat and ventilation to provide a healthful working environment, which would in turn stimulate productivity; and excellence of proportion, massing and decorative treatment to produce a respected corporate image. The Calumet plant met all of these criteria, and was noted in contemporary architectural publications as an example of what architects should be doing for industry. In 1929, architect George C. Nimmons wrote:

"As the recent addition now nears completion, it seems appropriate to recall the good service performed by the architects and builders and to compliment the owners for their part in adding an "architectural uplifter" to the City at this very conspicuous locality in the city's development."

2. Donnelley Firm and the Calumet Plant

Richard R. Donnelley came to Chicago in 1864 and established the printing firm of Church, Goodman and Donnelley. In 1870 the firm became The Lakeside Publishing and Printing Company, and in 1890 the firm was incorporated as

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R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company. The Lakeside Press name is now used as a servicemark and tradename by the Company. By the late 19th Century, the firm was the largest printing company in Chicago. Thomas Elliott Donnelley succeeded R. R. Donnelley as president of the firm in 1899, and worked closely with his brother, Reuben H. Donnelley. In 1896-97, the firm commissioned Howard Van Doren Shaw to construct a building at 731 S. Plymouth Court, known as the Lakeside Press Building (NR listed, South Loop Printing House Row Historic District, 3/2/78).. Shaw also designed the company's next building, the "Calumet Plant" in 1912.

Both the Plymouth Court Building and the Calumet Plant demonstrate what Gaylord Donnelley (son of T. E. Donnelley) has described as "the company's continued interest in architectural quality to match its concern for good printing design." T. E. Donnelley expressed this policy by saying that "a good building is better than an electric sign."² By 1910, the expanding company's business included Encyclopaedia Britannica, The Lakeside Classics, and well-know works such as The Plan of Chicago, as well as larger jobs such as the Montgomery Ward catalogue and Chicago telephone directories. The firm recognized the need for a larger plant and improved receiving and shipping facilities on a railroad "side track". Property between Calumet Avenue, 21st and 22nd street was chosen, according to T. E. Donnelley, because "it was reasonably near the center of the city, had railroad connections, and was in a good neighborhood."³

Along Calumet Avenue, the new land contained some of the town houses of the earlier residential neighborhood. The transition of this part of the city from a residential to an industrial area was reflected in the company's use of these buildings for employee clubs and offices, and by their demolition in 1929 to make way for the south and west portions of the plant. T. E. Donnelley commented that:

"we knew that there were some plans for widening South Park Avenue and having a drive out beyond the Illinois Central, but we had no idea our building would ever become so conspicuous."⁴

The new building would be built in four sections between 1912 and 1929, as the company's spatial needs grew and funds became available. T. E. Donnelley instructed Howard Van Doren Shaw to design the structure:

"so that it will not be beautiful only today, but one hundred years from now. We want to build it so people will say that it is art, intelligence and beauty rather than a flashy display of money."⁵

The combination of the basic modern industrial form with gothic detailing and original use of printers marks as ornament, symbolize the Donnelley Company's industrial modernity, the firm's function and its academic and artistic associations. Interior public and office spaces in the south

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(Building D) section of the building are particularly demonstrative of the Company's successful use of architecture to create a corporate image. The lobby, eighth floor gallery and offices with their gothic treatment, skillfully executed in fine materials, provide an aesthetically pleasing environment which is reminiscent of an academic setting.

The relationship between printing, art and academia is reinforced by the gallery in the eighth floor elevator lobby intended as a display area for the graphic arts, and the Memorial Library in the Tower. T. E. Donnelley announced the Company's plans for the library, which he called a "sanctum sanctorium", in 1928:

"we want to build here a room that will be so unusual and yet will be so artistic and refined that it will be the talk of the country . . . We propose to make it a place that people will say is as fine as a gentleman's library."⁶

The cruciform, two story library is indeed "the crowning glory of the building". With its references to the masters of printing from Gutenberg on, Latin inscriptions, portraits of the Donnelleys, and collection of the company's finest work, the Library expresses the firm's concern for and understanding of printing as an art.

The Architects

Howard Van Doren Shaw (1869-1926) was primary architect for the Calumet Plant until his death in 1926. Shaw was responsible for the design of the north and east sections, and apparently for the exteriors of the south and west sections, excluding the southeast corner tower. According to Gaylord Donnelley, Shaw's commission for the Plymouth Court Building and Calumet Plant was the result of his college friendship with T. E. Donnelley.⁷ The Donnelley plant was Shaw's largest commission and one of his few commercial or industrial buildings, which included the Mentor Building (1907) at State and Monroe, a 17 story office building; the National Cash Register Company (1914); the Pullman Press Building (ca. 1918) at 111th Street (demolished); the Albaugh Dover Co. (1906), eight stories; the Ginn & Company Building (1907) 3 stories; and the Henneberry Press Building at 1139-43 South Wabash (1907) 8 stories.⁸

Recognized primarily as an architect of residences for the wealthy based on historical motifs, Shaw designed "Thornhurst" for R. H. Donnelley in Lake Forest in 1907, and T. E. Donnelley's Lake Forest mansion in 1911. He designed more than thirty other mansions in Lake Forest alone, and was well represented in other North Shore communities and Hyde Park.

Writing in the 1926 issue of the Western Architect which was entirely devoted to a memorial for Shaw, Rexford Newcome wrote, "even so commercial a structure as the Lakeside Press, carry a marked measure of the distinguished idealism of this master."

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Nationally known for his skill with historical motifs and detail, in 1926, Shaw became the nation's fifth architect to receive the Gold Medal of the American Institute of Architects, awarded "for distinguished service to architecture." The Donnelley Calumet Plant is undoubtedly the work of a master.

Charles Z. Klauder, who was hired to complete Shaw's design after his death and to create the corner tower, was a Philadelphia architect best known for his collegiate gothic work. Klauder, who the company explained was "chosen both on account of his recognized ability and his sympathy with and understanding of Mr. Shaw's work", is best known for his gothic-styled academic buildings including those at Princeton University and his skyscraper, "Cathedral of Learning" for the University of Pittsburgh. Klauder's only other known work in Chicago is the Eckhart building on the University of Chicago campus, designed in 1930 to be compatible with Henry Ives Cobb's earlier Gothic Quadrangle. It was fitting that the Donnelleys selected an academic architect to complete and design the finished interiors for their corporate headquarters.¹⁰

(See Addendum for additional information)

1. See for comparison
Howard Chapman, "Design of Industrial Buildings" The American Architect, Vol. CVII, No. 2044, Feb. 24, 1915; W. Fred Dolke, "Some Essentials in the Construction of an Industrial Building" American Architect, Vol. CXI No. 2148, Feb. 21, 1917; George C. Nimmons, "Industrial Buildings" American Architect, Vol. 129, No. 2488, Jan. 5, 1926, pp. 15-27; Nimmons, "Some Industrial Buildings" The Architectural Record, Vol. 38, August, 1915, pp. 228-45; Nimmons, Sunday Tribune, June 23, 1929, quoted in The Donnelley Printer, Fall 1966, p. 41.
2. Gaylord Donnelley, "The Influence of Stone & Kimball on Chicago Printing" The Newberry Library Bulletin, Vol. VI, No. 9, August 1978, p. 318.
3. T. E. Donnelley, "The New Calumet Building", Address on January 17, 1928, printed in The Lakeside Press, Vol. VIII, No. 3, March 1928, p. 1.
4. Ibid.
5. Gaylord Donnelley, "The Development of the Calumet Plant" The Donnelley Printer, Fall 1966, p. 40.
6. T. E. Donnelley, The Lakeside Press, March 1928
7. Gaylord Donnelley, The Newberry Library Bulletin, August 1978.
8. Frank A. Randall, History of the Development of Building Construction in Chicago (New York: Arno Press, 1972; reprint of 1949 edition); and collections of the Burnham Library.

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9. Rexford Newcome, AIA "This Most Excellent Master, Howard Van Doren Shaw" The Western Architect, Vol. XXXV, No. 9, Sept. 1926, entire issue devoted to Shaw. See also Leonard Eaton, Two Chicago Architects and their Clients: Frank Lloyd Wright and Howard Van Doren Shaw (MIT Press, 1969).
10. The Lakeside Press (R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company, 1929) Booklet announcing completion of The Calumet Plant; Calder Loth and J. Sadler, Jr. The Only Proper Style: Gothic Architecture in America (Boston: New York Graphic Society, 1975) p.166; Condit, cited in Description.

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(addendum)

The Donnelley firm and the Printing Industry

R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company has been and continues to be a leader in printing technology, dedicated to developing techniques that produce quality materials inexpensively and in large quantities. Its excellent reputation is based on its ability to produce a wide variety of high-quality work efficiently within strict deadlines. These abilities were well demonstrated when the company earned the printing contract for Time Magazine in 1927, just before the completion of the Calumet Plant's last sections. The company's innovations with half tone printing, and its development of high speed four-color heat-set rotary printing revolutionized its color reproduction abilities. Life Magazine, the weekly picture news magazine first printed by Donnelley for Time, Inc. in 1936, was the product of such innovations, as are the New Yorker, Scientific American and the numerous other magazines and books printed by the Donnelley company. These innovations never precluded careful attention to detail and interest in craftsmanship, which the firm demonstrated with its Apprentice School in which it trained its own craftsmen starting at the turn of the century, its publication of finer works such as the Lakeside Classics, and the recognition of printing as an art evidenced in its exhibition galleries, library, and architectural policies.¹¹

¹¹ See for example, Donnelley Printer, Fall 1966, Summer 1967; Gaylord Donnelley, "The Influence of Stone & Kimball. . ."

9. Major Bibliographical References

See notes in description and significance sections.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1

Quadrangle name JACKSON PARK, IL-IND

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A	<u>116</u>	<u>4148700</u>	<u>416335100</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification - Parcel 1: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in Gurley and Keith's Subdivision of Block 23 in Assessor's Division of the South West fractional quarter of Section 22, Township 39 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian;

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Emily J. Harris, Program Assistant
Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois, co-sponsored with

organization R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company date September 22, 1982
407 S. Dearborn Street/ (312) 922-1742-E.Harris
street & number 350 E. 22nd Street telephone (312) 326-7194-R.R.D.-D.Franczel

city or town Chicago state Illinois

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:
 national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *David Kennedy*

title *Director* date *1/3/83*

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register _____ date _____

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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Parcel 2:

ALSO

All that vacated part of the intersection of East Cermak Road and South Park Avenue, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the South line of Lot 9 produced East across the entrance of a vacated alley to the South Westerly line of the right of way of the Illinois Central Railroad Company in Gurley and Keith's Subdivision of Block 23 in Assessor's Division of the South West fractional quarter of Section 22, Township 39 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian, 13 feet West of the South Westerly line of the right of way of the Illinois Central Railroad Company; thence East on said line to the South Westerly line of the right of way of the Illinois Central Railroad Company; thence South Easterly on the last described line a distance of 40 feet; thence North Westerly on a straight line to the place of beginning;

ALSO

Parcel 3:

The North Westerly and South Easterly 30 foot vacated alley lying North Easterly and adjoining the North Easterly line of Lots 1 to 9, both inclusive, in Gurley and Keith's Subdivision of Block 23 in Assessor's Division of the South West fractional quarter of Section 22, Township 39 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian and lying South Westerly of and adjoining the South Westerly line of the right of way of the Illinois Central Railroad Company;

ALSO

Parcel 4:

All that part of the South half of vacated East 21st Street lying North and adjoining the North line of Lot 1 in Gurley and Keith's Subdivision of Block 23 in Assessor's Division aforesaid, produced East to the South Westerly right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad Company; lying South Westerly and adjoining the South Westerly right of way line of the Illinois Central Railroad Company and lying South Easterly of and adjoining a line drawn from a point on the South Westerly line of the right of way of the Illinois Central Railroad 5 feet Southerly of the South line of Lot 9 in Block 6 of George Smith's Addition to Chicago in the South West fractional quarter of Section 22, Township 39 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian, to the North East corner of Lot 1 in Gurley and Keith's Subdivision of Block 23 in Assessor's Division of the South West fractional quarter of Section 22, Township 39 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian;

ALSO

Parcel 5:

The South half of vacated East 21st Street lying East of the East line of Calumet Avenue and West of Parcel 4 above described, all in Cook County, Illinois. **